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Identical letters dated 12 November 2017 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, and further to our numerous previous letters informing you of the barbarous crimes committed by the "international coalition" led by the United States of America, and that coalition's systematic attacks against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic and against innocent Syrian civilians, I should like to draw to your attention the following:

The United States-led international coalition is continuing with its serious attacks on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic, which have been going on ever since that coalition commenced its illegal operations on 23 September 2014. That internationally illegitimate renegade coalition has added a new bloody massacre to its long record of massacres, war crimes and crimes against humanity. On 11 November 2017, its warplanes attacked residential areas in the Tall al-Shayir area and the village of Al-Du'ayji in Dayr al-Zawr governorate, killing over a dozen civilians, injuring dozens more, and causing significant material damage to property and homes. That illegitimate coalition alliance was evidently not content with that heinous crime alone. Its warplanes went on to attack a vehicle carrying emergency personnel on their way to save the lives of injured civilians, killing all the occupants and destroying the vehicle completely.

The international coalition is pressing on with its efforts to undermine the victories scored by the Syrian Arab Army and its allies against the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) organization, whether through its warplanes and proxies on the ground, or through the deals it strikes with the ISIL terrorist organization to launch attacks on the Syrian Arab Army and its allies from areas under the control of that illegitimate coalition and its client militias on the ground. Such actions merely serve to confirm the suspicious role being played by that coalition and the threat that it poses to genuine efforts against the ISIL terrorist organization being conducted by the Syrian Arab Army and its allies. That is the reality confirmed by events on the ground, numerous reports and aerial photographs.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic expresses its strong condemnation of the attacks, war crimes and crimes against humanity being perpetrated by the international coalition against Syrian civilians. The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic also protests the fact that so many of the parties that trumpet their devotion to the rule of law, human rights and international humanitarian law should close their eyes to the massacres being perpetrated by the

coalition in Raqqah and Dayr al-Zawr governorates. The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic regards the failure by the Governments of certain member States of that coalition to dissociate themselves from the crimes being committed by that coalition in their names to be equivalent to active complicity in the commission of those crimes and massacres.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic renews its call on the Security Council to fulfil its primary responsibility of maintaining international peace and security, to take immediate action to put a stop to the barbaric crimes being committed by this illegitimate coalition against innocent civilians in the Syrian Arab Republic, and to prevent the commission of further crimes and attacks against the Syrian people and the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative